

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS ABOUT
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN AMERICA



Join us on Zoom for a conversation about Environmental Justice.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022 AT NOON

Register for free: chescof.org/explore/food-for-thought

Noon | Welcome & Overview

12:05 | Intro Videos

12:20 | Topic Overview

12:40 | Breakout Rooms

THOUGHT LEADERS



Kalila Barnett

Senior Program Officer
Climate Resilience



Lisa Quiveors

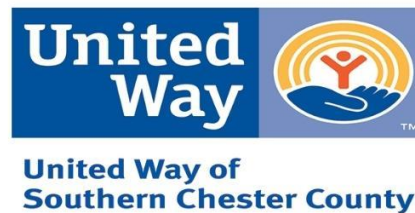
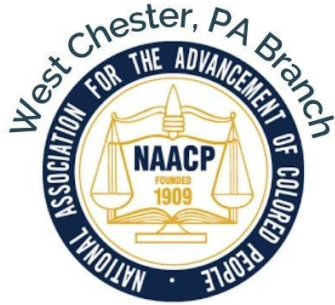
Community Volunteer



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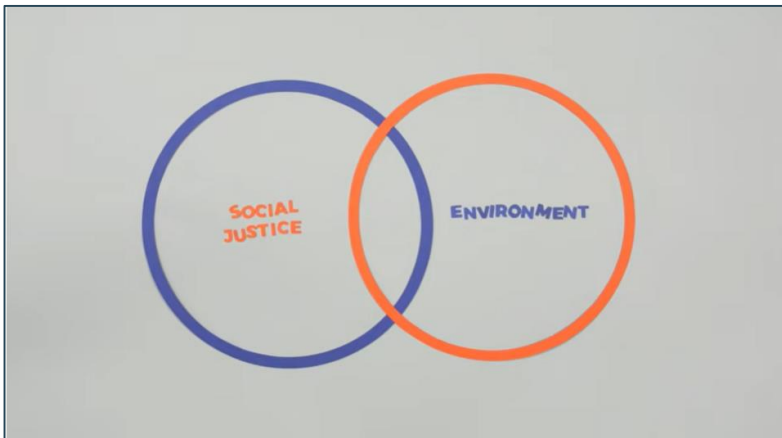
THANK YOU TO OUR PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS



A FEW HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

- Please be mindful and respectful to all.
- Some may have never have dealt with these topics before while others may have lived through traumatic experiences.
- Please mute yourself and turn off your video during the TED Talk video streaming.
- Feel free to eat your lunch while viewing the video.
- Please unmute yourself and turn on your video immediately after the TED Talk video streaming to encourage open dialogue.





[Environmental justice, explained](#)



[How Black Lives Matter And Environmental Justice Are Connected](#)

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

This goal will be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

The **environmental justice movement** was started by individuals, primarily people of color, who sought to address the inequity of environmental protection in their communities.



Environmental concerns include:

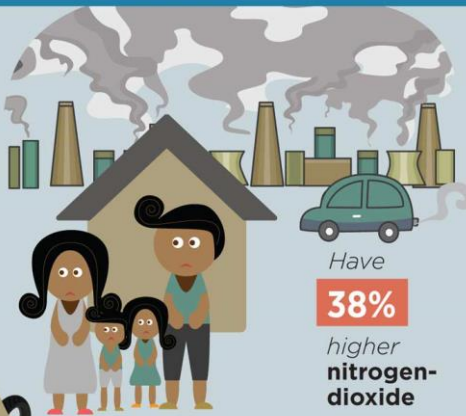
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|-----------------------|-----------|
| Safe Drinking Water | Air |
| Waterways & Wetlands | Mining |
| Environmental Cleanup | Pipelines |
| Radiation Protection | Waste |
| Oil & Gas | |

Environmental Racism Is Nothing New

Race is the most significant predictor of a person living near contaminated air, water, or soil.

56%

of the population near toxic waste sites are people of color.



People of color:

38%

Have higher nitrogen-dioxide exposure.

Are

2x

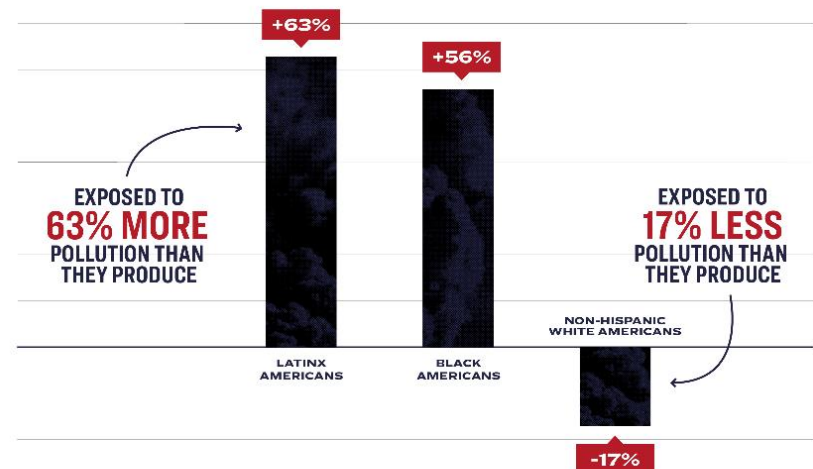
more likely to live without potable water and modern sanitation.

THE Nation.
150
INDICATING PROGRESS SINCE 1965

Have seen **95%** of their claims against polluters denied by the EPA.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/race-best-predicts-whether-you-live-near-pollution/>

POLLUTION EXPOSURE BY POPULATION (2003–2015)



Source: Christopher W. Tossum et al., "Inequity in consumption of goods and services adds to racial-ethnic disparities in air pollution exposure," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (March 2013).

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/what-is-environmental-racism-pollution-covid-systemic/>

EXECUTIVE ORDER 12898 – Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations



Purpose: To focus federal attention on the environmental and human health effects of federal actions on minority and low-income populations with the goal of achieving environmental protection for all communities

- Issued by President Clinton in **1994**
- **First major federal action** on environmental justice in the United States
- Brought legitimacy and attention to the environmental justice movement
- Has not been revoked and **continues to apply** for executive departments and agencies
- Not every federal agency has fulfilled the mandates and many communities continue to be unnecessarily exposed to toxic pollution that threatens their health and quality of life

<https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-executive-order-12898-federal-actions-address-environmental-justice>

<https://www.nrdc.org/experts/albert-huang/20th-anniversary-president-clintons-executive-order-12898-environmental-justice>



For more information watch: [The Road to Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice](#)

The **Environmental Justice Public Participation Policy** is a critical part of the PA Department of Environmental Justice's environmental justice work, providing guidelines for the PA Department of Environmental Protection's approach to public engagement.

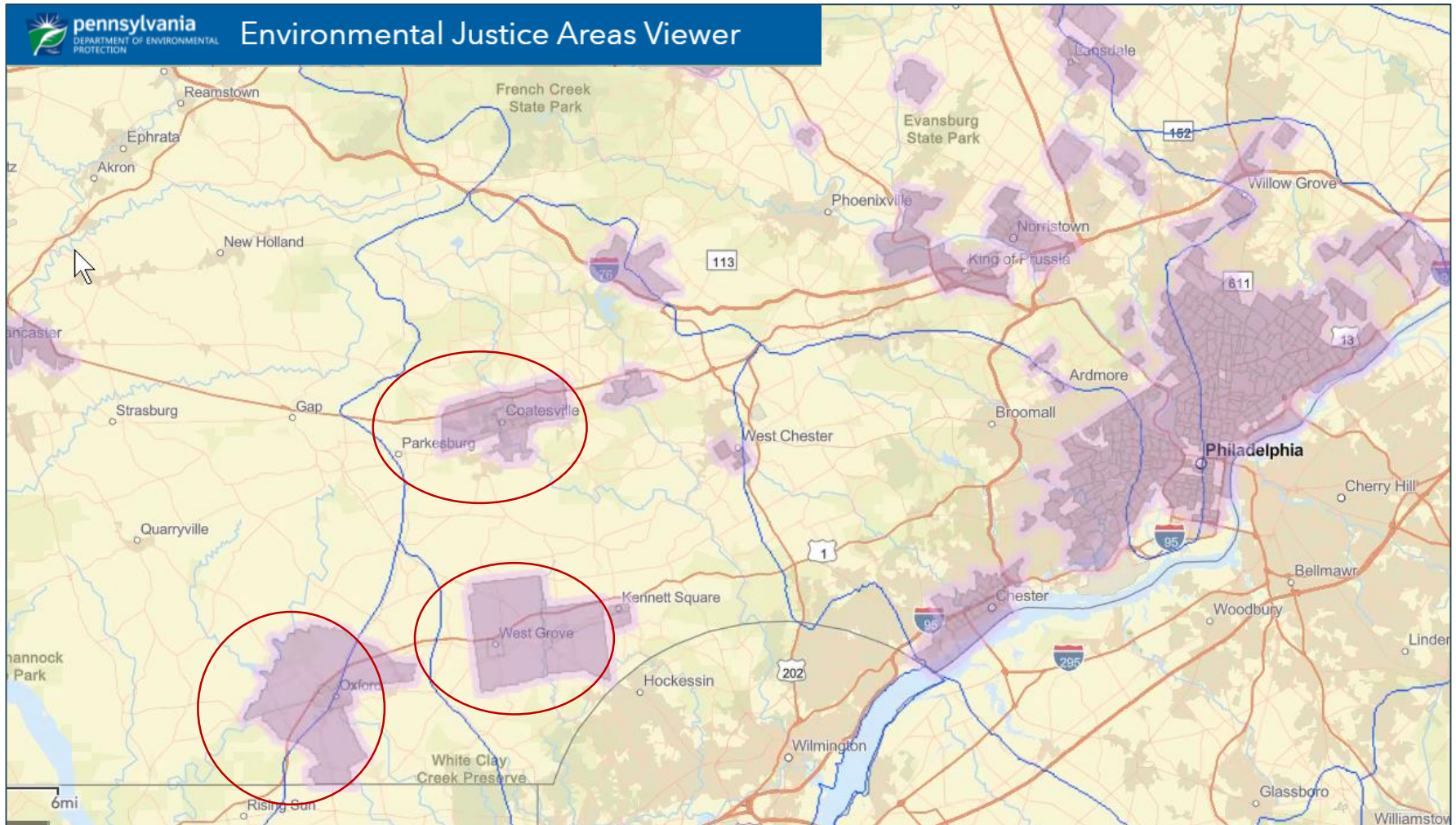
The Environmental Justice Public Participation Policy was created to **increase engagement in Environmental Justice Areas** and ensure those communities have the **opportunity to participate and be involved in a meaningful manner** throughout the permitting process when regulated activities are proposed in their neighborhood or when existing facilities expand their operations.

Environmental Justice (EJ) Areas defined as: Communities where **20%** of residents live below the federal poverty line and/or **30%** are non-white minorities

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/PublicParticipation/OfficeofEnvironmentalJustice/Pages/Summaries-and-Documents.aspx>

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/PublicParticipation/OfficeofEnvironmentalJustice/Pages/PA-Environmental-Justice-Areas.aspx>

EJ AREAS IN CHESTER COUNTY



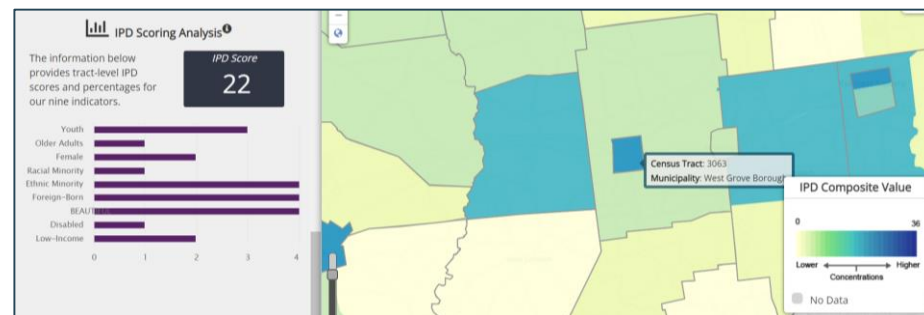
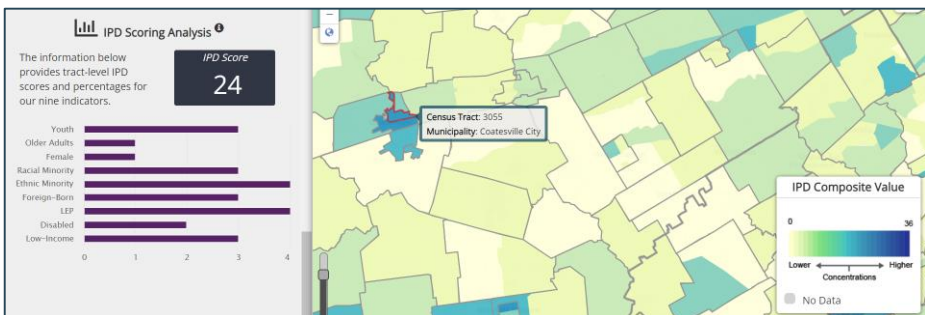
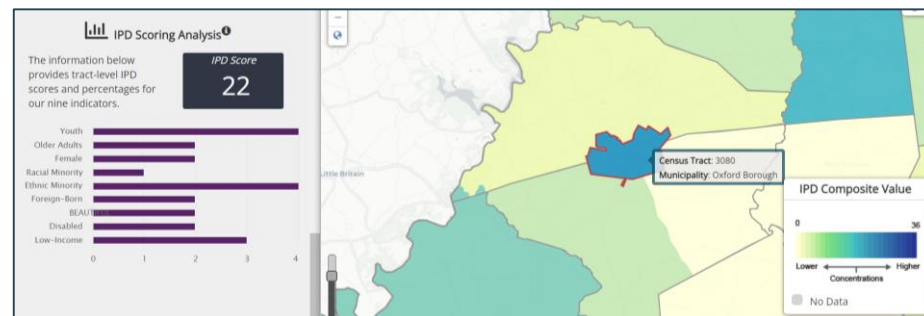
<https://padep-1.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f31a188de122467691cae93c3339469c>

EQUITY ANALYSIS FOR THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA REGION

An Equity Analysis for the Greater Philadelphia Region was conducted by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. You can use this resource as a foundational start to identify populations for your own equity work.

The Indicators of Potential Disadvantage (IPD) analysis identifies populations of interest and maps these populations in each of the Census tracts in the region. Each population group is an “indicator” in the analysis and includes the following:

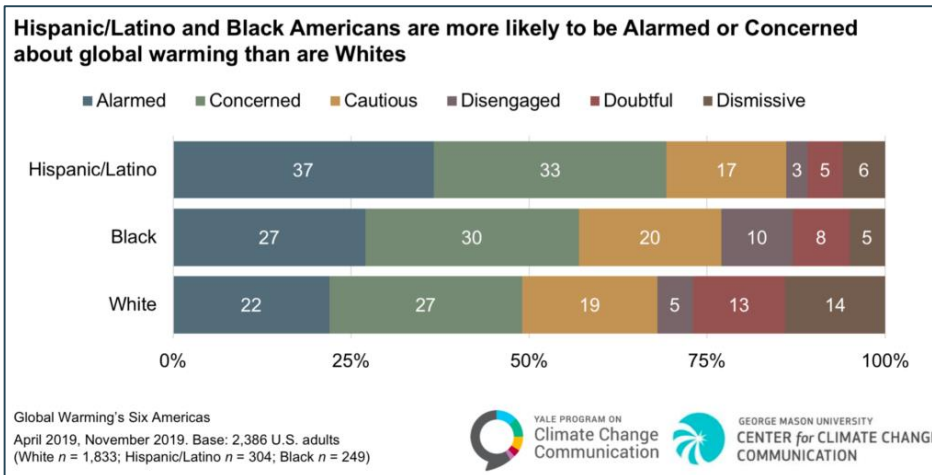
Youth, Older Adults, Female, Racial Minority, Ethnic Minority, Foreign-Born, Limited English Proficiency, Disabled, Low-Income





- The World Health Organization estimates that climate change will cause an additional **250,000 deaths per year between 2030 and 2050.**
- **Low-income communities are more likely to be exposed** to climate change threats (e.g., flooding, storms, and droughts) due to inadequate housing and infrastructure.
- **Indigenous populations** that rely on subsistence farming practices for food have limited options for adapting to climate change threats.

https://css.umich.edu/sites/default/files/Environmental%20Justice_CSS17-16_e2021.pdf



<https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/publications/race-and-climate-change/>





Barr Foundation Climate Program Goal:
To address climate change by advancing equitable solutions for clean energy, mobility, and resilient communities.

A deeper understanding of systematic racism has led to five new approaches that will be integrated into grantmaking at the Barr Foundation:

- **Building leadership** & organizational capacity of equity-centered climate organizations to grow
- **Investing** in equity-centered, community-based organizations that are linking climate change to other priority issues
- **Providing career pathways** for people of color to enter the climate field
- **Building capacity in the public sector** to implement policies focused on racial equity
- Developing capacity of legacy climate organizations to **integrate anti-racism**

<https://www.barrfoundation.org/blog/racial-equity-and-barr-s-climate-program>

WHAT CAN YOUR ORGANIZATION DO?

Earlier this month the **Donors of Color Network**, a group of financial donors committed to racial equity plans, announced that it has **secured at least \$100 million annually to benefit minority groups that are disproportionately harmed by extreme weather events.**

In addition, 10 of the nation's top 40 donors to environmental causes have now signed on to at least a portion of a pledge the network established last year. The **Climate Funders Justice Pledge** commits the donors to make their **climate-related grants transparent** and to **direct at least 30 percent of their donations to groups that have Black, Indigenous or other people of color as their leaders.**

“There’s been a long history in environmental philanthropy of thinking of climate change as largely a technical problem with technical solutions. As a sector, we’ve underestimated that it’s a social issue as well, that we need to be thinking about political will, that we also need to be thinking more about how to center people in our grant making around climate change.”

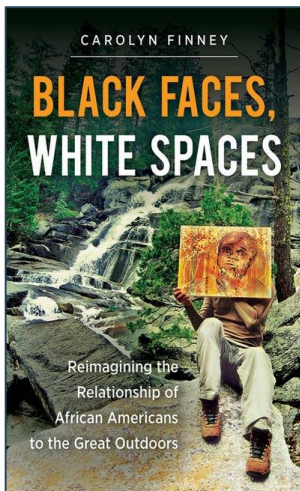
THE CHRONICLE OF
PHILANTHROPY

https://www.philanthropy.com/article/donors-secure-100-million-to-benefit-people-of-color-on-climate-change?mc_cid=5a24b251aa&mc_eid=976557805b&cid2=gen_login_refresh



Remember that the idea that Black people are inherently disconnected from nature and less inclined to care about environmental issues is largely a myth rooted in anti-Black racism.

<https://www.euronews.com/green/2020/10/05/environmental-racism-has-ripped-black-people-away-from-nature>



We need to make the outdoors more inclusive, and even reframe what we define as the “outdoors”. Shifting how we define the “natural environment” allows us to rethink how Black Americans have engaged with natural spaces and in the environmental movement.

Learn more:

[*“Black Faces, White Spaces” by Carolyn Finney*](#)

[*Joan and Dick Stroud Memorial Lecture Featuring Carolyn Finney, Ph.D.*](#)

Brief Intros

- Who are you? What brought you to today's Community Conversation?
- What did you want to learn? What have you learned?

Discussion Questions

- Where do you see environmental justice intersecting with other issues, such as housing, education, health care, etc.?
- What do you typically think of when you think of “environmentalism”? Whose concerns are heard and whose struggles are typically left out of the conversation?
- What can you and/or your organization do – right now – in support of environmental justice?

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT TIME!

Please note the change
in date for the May
Food for Thought –
May 24 not May 17

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for any
upcoming session that interests you.

| | | | |
|-----------|---------------|---|--------------------|
| 5/24/2022 | Race + Gender | The urgency of intersectionality | Kimberle Crenshaw |
| 6/21/2022 | Race | 50 years of racism—why silence isn't the answer | James A. White Sr. |



[Visit our website](#) to view a calendar of upcoming
social justice events and programs taking place in
and around Chester County.

Do you know of an event that should be added?
Email jamison@chescof.org